



# Seventy Years & Seventy Weeks (Pt. 2)

## Daniel 9

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- I. A Prayer for the End of Israel's Captivity (1-19)
  - A. The Occasion of the Prayer (1)
  - B. The Reason for the Prayer (2)



# “Seventy Years”

- Jer. 25:11-12
- Jer. 29:10



# Why Seventy Years?

- Every seventh year was a Sabbath year in which the land was not to be actively farmed (Lev. 25:1-7, 18-22).
- 2 Ch. 36:20-21 -“Those who had escaped from the sword he carried away to Babylon; and they were servants to him and to his sons until the rule of the kingdom of Persia, to fulfill the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed its sabbaths. All the days of its desolation it kept sabbath until seventy years were complete.”

# How are seventy years calculated?

Two primary views...

- 1) 605 to 536/535 BC
  - The first Jewish captives—including Daniel—were taken to Babylon.
- 2) 586 to 516/515 BC
  - The Temple was destroyed in 586 BC and the rebuilding completed in 516/515 BC.



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  - C. The Attitudes of the Prayer (3)
    - 1. Single-mindedness
    - 2. Faith
    - 3. Persistence
    - 4. Humility

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  - D. The Content of the Prayer (4-19)
    - 1. Adoration (4)
    - 2. Confession of Sin (5-14)

## 2) Confession of Sin (5-14)

- a. Identifying Sin's True Nature (5-6)
- b. Accepting Sin's Just Consequences (7-8)
- c. Hoping in Sin's Only Remedy (9)
- d. Admitting God's Faithfulness in Judgment (10-13a)
- e. Cultivating Godly Sorrow over Sin (13b-14)



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### D. The Content of the Prayer (4-19)

1. Adoration (4)
2. Confession of Sin (5-14)
3. Petition for Forgiveness and Restoration (15-19)
  - a. The Specific Requests (16a, 17b)
    - The Forgiveness of His People
    - The Restoration of Jerusalem & the Temple
  - b. The Six Reasons (15-19)

## **b. The Six Reasons**

- God's Past Redemption (15)
- God's Perfect Righteousness (16a)
- God's People's Reproach (16b)
- God's Personal Reputation (17-18a, 19)
- God's Profound Compassion (18b)
- God's Primary Method (He uses means!)



# Several Crucial Lessons about Prayer

1. There is a symbiotic relationship between divine sovereignty and our prayers.
2. Our prayers should primarily grow out of our study of Scripture and in response to God's promises in Scripture.
3. We should present our requests to God with arguments for Him to consider—especially biblical ones.
4. Biblical praying is often directed toward human needs but is always God-centered.
5. God always hears the prayers of His people.